

B U N G I A N A,

Or an ASSEMBLAGE of

What-d'ye-call-em's,

In P R O S E and V E R S E.

That have occasionally appeared

RELATIVE to the CONDUCT

O F A

Certain NAVAL COMMANDER,

Now first Collected ;

In Order to perpetuate the MEMORY of
his WONDERFUL ATCHIEVEMENTS.

Answer me, what Motive,
First brought thee hither ? but forbear to urge,
It was in quest of Honour ; for the God
Of War disclaims thee.

GLOVER's *Boadicea*.

L O N D O N :

Printed for J. DOUGHTY, in *Pater-noster-Row*. 1756.

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P R E F A C E.

WHEN a person has appeared in any remarkable character on the great theatre of the world, curiosity takes an interest in him, and naturally inquires for what he has been distinguished? Whether for his good or ill conduct? For his misfortunes or his prosperity? From whatsoever source the occasion of becoming remarkable proceeds, instruction may generally be drawn from the example. The truly good and great, the hero who has bravely fought in the cause of his country, and the patriot who has disinterestedly defended its liberty, are patterns of imitation; while on the contrary, the weak and the wicked, the coward who has neglected, when in his power to defend, and the traitor who has betray'd the interests it was his duty to serve, necessarily excite contempt and abhorrence. As well the latter as the former, are objects of historical knowledge; human wisdom is little else than the fruit of experience, and, it is more than possible, that the most useful lessons both of policy and morality may be collected from the misconduct or misfortunes of others: hereby we are taught to avoid the rocks our predecessors split upon, and learn not only to know when to observe the calm counsels of prudence, but also as occasion requires, when to exert the greatest vigour, and manage with adequate dexterity. The success of the Macedonians was owing chiefly to the pusillanimity and effeminacy of the Persians; and the vices of Cataline served to enhance the merit of Cicero. History is equally careful in recording both. Facts that have happened nearest our own times most strongly affect, and leave the most lasting impressions.

The

iv P R E F A C E.

The voice of the public is not always the voice of truth; nor is popular opinion always the proper measure of merit; praise is extorted with difficulty, while abuse flows in a liberal stream. However, it very rarely happens, that a people unanimously join in the applause or censure of any individual without some reasonable cause. The justice of the reflections here collected, is not intended to be now disputed; however they may be so far of use, that they sufficiently shew that Britons are not yet arrived at that extreme placability, as to put up with injuries so patiently, as some writers would insinuate; at the same time, they serve, in terrorem, to future commanders, who may hereby be convinced, that a general national resentment will always attend every breach or neglect of those duties required by their country.

An ingenious French writer has not injudiciously observed, that the letters of famous men furnish the best pictures of their characters; as such our hero's own epistle will be no improper introduction to what follows; only premising, that on the 3d day of April 1756, he was sent with the command of a squadron of ships hereafter specified, under positive orders to relieve the island of Minorca, once a British possession, and then threatened to be besieged by the French.



B--GIANA.



B - - G I A N A.

From the London Gazette, Saturday, June 26.

Admiralty-Office, June 26. Extract of a letter from Admiral Byng to Mr. Cleveland, Secretary of the Admiralty, dated on board the Ramillies off Minorca, May 25. 1756.

I HAVE the pleasure to desire that you will acquaint their Lordships, that having sailed from Gibraltar the 8th, I got off Mahon the 19th, having been joined by his Majesty's ship Phoenix off Majorca, two Days before, when the Enemy's fleet appeared to the S. E. falling little wind, it was five before I could form my line, and distinguish any of the enemy's motions, and not at all judge of their force more than by their numbers, which were seventeen, and thirteen of those appeared large. They at first stood towards us in a regular line, and tacked about seven, which I judged was to endeavour to gain the wind of us in the night, so that being late, I tacked, in order to keep the weather-gage of them, as well as to make sure of the land wind : In the morning, being very hazy, and not above five leagues off Cape Mola, we tacked off towards the enemy at eleven, and at day light had no sight of them ; but two tartans, with the

B

French

French private signal, being close in with the rear of our fleet, I sent the Princess Louisa to chase one, and made the signal for the Rear Admiral, who was nearest the other, to send ships to chase her. The Princess Louisa, Defiance, and Captain, became at a great distance, but the Defiance took hers, which had two captains, two lieutenants, and one hundred and two private soldiers who were sent out the day before with six hundred men on board tartans, to reinforce the French fleet, on our appearing off the place. The Phoenix (on Captain Hervey's offer) prepared to serve as a fire-ship, but without damaging her as a frigate, till the signal was made to prime, when she was then to scuttle her decks, every thing else being prepared at the time and place allowed of. The enemy now began to appear from the mast-head: I called in the cruisers, and when they had joined me, I tacked towards the enemy, and formed a line a head; I found the French were preparing theirs to leeward, having unsuccessfully endeavoured to weather me: They were twelve large ships of the line and five frigates. As soon as I judged the rear of ours was the length of their van, we tacked altogether, and I immediately made the signal for the ships that led to lead large, and for the Deptford to quit the line, that ours might become equal in number with theirs. At two I made the signal to engage, as I found it was the surest Method of ordering every ship to close down on the one that fell to their lot. And here I must express my great satisfaction at the very gallant manner in which the Rear Admiral set the van the example, by instantly bearing down on the ships he was to engage, with his second, and who occasioned one of the French ships to begin the engagement, which they did by raking ours as they went down: I bore right down on the ship that lay opposite to me, and began to engage him, after having received their fire for some time on going down. The Intrepid, in the very beginning, had his foremast shot away, and as that hung
on

on his foresail and backed it, he had no command of his ship, his foretack, and all his braces being cut at the same time, so that he drove on the next ship to him and obliged that, and the ships a-head of me, to throw all a-back : This obliged me to do so also for some minutes, to avoid their falling all on board me, though not before we had drove our adversary out of the line, who put before the wind, and had several shot fired at him from his own Admiral. This not only caused the enemy's center to be unattacked, but left the Rear Admiral's division rather uncovered for some very little time. I sent and called to the ships a-head of me, to make sail on and go down on the enemy, and ordered the Chesterfield to lie by the Intrepid, and the Deptford to supply the Intrepid's place. I found the enemy edged away constantly ; and as they went three feet to our one, they would never permit our closing with them but take the advantage of destroying our rigging ; for though I closed the Rear Admiral at last, yet I found I could not again close the enemy, whose van were fairly drove from their line, but their Admiral was joining them by bearing away. By this time it was past six, and the enemy's van and ours were at too great a distance to engage, I perceived some of their ships stretching to the northward, and I imagined they were going to form a new line. I made the signal for the headmost ships to attack, and those that led before with the larboard tacks, to lead with the starboard, that I might, by the first, keep (if possible) the wind of the enemy ; and, by the second, be between the Rear Admiral's division and the enemy, as his had suffered most, as also to cover the Intrepid, which I perceived to be in a very bad condition, and whose loss would give the ballance against us, if they attacked us the next morning, as I expected. I brought to about eight that night, to join the Intrepid and refit our ships as fast as possible, and continued so all night. The next morning we saw nothing of the Enemy, though we were still lying to : Mahon was

N. N. W. about ten or eleven leagues. I sent cruizers to look out for the Intrepid and Chesterfield, who joined me the next day; and having, from a state and condition of the squadron brought me in, found that the Captain, Intrepid, and Defiance (which latter has lost her captain) were very much damaged in her masts. I thought it proper, in this situation, to call a council of war, before I went again to look for the enemy. I desired the attendance of General Stuart, Lord Effingham, Lord Robert Bertie, and Colonel Cornwallis, that I might collect their opinions upon the present situation, at which council not the least contention or doubt arose. I do not send their Lordships the particular of our losses and damage by this, as it would take me much time, and that I am willing none should be lost in letting them know an event of such consequence. I dispatch this to Sir Benjamin Keene, by way of Barcelona, and am making the best of way to Gibraltar, from which place I propose sending their Lordships a more particular account.

“ P. S. I must desire you will acquaint their Lordships, that I have appointed Capt. Hervey to the command of the Defiance, in the room of Capt. Andrews, slain in the action.

“ I have just sent the defects of the ships, as I have got it made out whilst I was closing my letter.”

State of the English and French fleets in the late action in the Mediterranean, with the number of persons killed and wounded in each ship.

ENGLISH.

Ships.	Guns.	Commanders.	kill'd.	wounded.	total.
Ramilies,	90	{ Admiral Byng, Capt. Gardiner,	—	—	—
Buckingham,	70	{ Rear Ad. West, Capt. Everit,	3	7	10
Culloden,	74	Ward,	—	—	—
				Captain,	

Ships.	Guns.	Commanders.	kill'd.	wounded.	tot.
Captain,	70	Catford,	6	30	36
Revenge,	70	Cornwall,	—	—	—
Lancaster,	66	Edgecumbe,	1	14	15
Trident,	64	Durell,	—	—	—
Intrepid,	64	Young,	9	39	48
Kingston,	60	Parry,	—	—	—
Princess Louisa,	60	Noel,	4	13	17
Defiance,	60	Andrews,	14	45	59
Portland,	50	Baird,	6	20	26
Deptford,	50	Amherst,	—	—	—
	848		43	168	211

Frigates.

Chesterfield,	44	Lloyd,	—	—	—
Experiment,	24	Gilchrist,	—	—	—
Dolphin,	24	—	—	—	—
Phoenix,	24	Hervey,	—	—	—
Fortune,	14	Maplesden,	—	—	—

F R E N C H.

Ships.	Guns.	Commanders.	kill'd.	wounded.	tot.
Le Foudroyant,	80	{ La Galissoniere, Lieut. Gen.	{ 2	{ 10	{ 12
Le Redoubtable,	74	{ Glandeves, Chef d'Escadre,	{ 12	{ 39	{ 51
La Couronné,	74	{ La Cin, Chef d'Escadre,	{ —	{ 3	{ 3
Le Temeraire,	74	Beaumont,	—	15	15
Le Guerrier,	74	La Brosse,	—	43	43
Le Lion,	64	St. Agnan,	2	7	9
Le Sage,	64	Duruen,	—	8	8
L'Orphee,	64	Raimondis,	10	9	19
Le Content,	64	Sabran,	5	19	24
Le Triton,	64	Mercier,	5	14	19
L'Hipotame,	50	Rochemaure,	2	10	12
Le Fier,	50	D'Herville,	—	4	4
	796		38	181	219

Frigates.

Ships.	Guns.	Commanders.
Frigates.		
La Junon,	46	Beaufier,
La Rose,	26	Costebelle,
La Gracieuse,	24	Marquizan,
La Topaze,	24	Carne,
La Nimphe,	24	Callian.

Evening Advertiser, June 26, 1756.

On the same Evening, antecedent to the publication of the Gazette, the following appeared in the Evening Advertiser.

On Wednesday night arrived from Admiral Byng a long expected and long wished for express which brought nothing equal to the sanguine hopes and expectations formed by all lovers of their country from so well equipped and manned a fleet. It however confirmed the account received from Mr. Millar, his Majesty's Consul at Barcelona, which we gave in our last, so late as the 24th of May; the Admiral in his letter pays great regard to the gallant behaviour of Admiral West in the action of 20th: and likewise gives some particulars relating to the conduct of General Blakeney, and the great success with which it has been crowned during the siege, which he had from the French officers taken in the Tartan mentioned in our last. The Admiral farther says, that in order to put in execution the landing the regiment he had on board, he ordered in a small vessel to reconnoitre the place: the Captain of which informed him that the French had erected batteries every where to prevent any men from being landed, and that it appeared impracticable. On this the Admiral called a COUNCIL OF WAR, in which it was agreed to return to Gibraltar, as it was apprehended the Toulon fleet might be sailed to the Streights mouth to join that of Brest, and both together attack that place. — By this retreat of our fleet the brave old General Blakeney and his garrison were left a sacrifice to the enemy, except the same good fortune which

which has attended him during the first part of the siege should follow him, and thereby enable him to hold out till Sir Edward Hawke arrives, to extricate him out of the numberless difficulties with which at present he seems surrounded, and save him and so valuable a place to this nation from falling into the hands of our inveterate enemy: This is the account said to come from the Admiral.

We have received the following circumstances, relating to the conduct of a sea officer in great command, which, we are told, may be depended upon :

Tho' he solicited the command, he deferred sailing from England, till very pressing letters were sent him from authority; many *strange* delays happened in the course of the voyage; he lost seven days at Gibraltar, when the utmost expedition was necessary for the publick service; he was *twelve* days upon his passage from Gibraltar to the distance of twelve leagues off Minorca, where the French fleet happened to find him; he called a council as to the *prudence* of venturing an engagement; the bad condition of the enemy's fleet occasioned their only maintaining a running fight; night, and the *cautiousness* of our admiral, put an entire end to the skirmish; after staying four days, without seeing or seeking for the enemy, a council was called to determine upon the *expediency* of relieving Fort St. Philip's——*the errand they were sent out upon*; when off Mahon harbour another council was called, in which it was RESOLVED, that the endeavouring to throw in the designed reinforcements was too dangerous, and that the preservation of the fort was *impossible*; [against this Lord Effingham Howard of the land forces nobly protested;] another point determined was, that the non-appearance of the enemy's fleet made it probable they were sailed against Gibraltar, and therefore, that it was *prudent* to get thither as fast as possible:——Where the *British* Admiral has since remained in perfect *security* and freedom from alarms.

Evening

Evening Advertiser, June 29, 1756.

It is said, that at the Hague, the French Ambassador insists that *Byng* got the victory; and the English Ambassador, that *Calissoniere* got it: each being so much ashamed at the behaviour of their respective countrymen.

A letter received yesterday from Yorkshire, says, that a certain Admiral has already been hanged and burned in almost every market town in that loyal county.

Several candidates are already talked of for the next general election for Westminster against him who *signed the council*.

It is recorded of an antient general, that he used to say, "That an army of *Harts* with a *Lion* for their commander, was preferable to one of *Lions* under the direction of a *Hart*:" which no doubt may as well be applied to the sea as to the land service; and to the *English tars* as properly as any species of animals that ever existed.

It was day reported about 'Change, that a certain person now, or lately, in a very important command, sold all his property in the national funds before his leaving England. And it is farther said, that his relations have been at the expence of an express to him to prevent his venturing home, during the present rage of the public resentment against his conduct.

Gazetteer, July 1, 1756.

By a *General Court of Sailors*, held the 29th of June, 1756, at the Lyon and Anchor in Wapping, it was determined that Mr. Bung, Chief d'Escadre in the Middle Seas, should be exemplary punished for cowardice, and the reasons for such punishment be made public.

By order,

T. BOATSWAIN.

1. That

1. That he is highly guilty, for ordering the Deptford out of the line, as he ought to have taken all advantages to destroy the French, and not risked a battle on equal terms, when he could do otherwise.

2. Because he did not lead the van, but gave the command and his post of honour and danger to his Rear-Chief d'Escadre; whereas he should have led the van, and by example spirited on the other ships: which shews he did not intend any harm to the enemy,

3. That he might have prevented his ships from being raked by the enemy, as he had the windward gage, but did not prevent it.

4. Then he suffered his own ship (according to his own words) to sustain the fire of the enemy for some time before he engaged his adversary.

5. That we suspect this 4th article, because it is impossible for two capital ships to engage, without having a man killed or wounded.

6. That it must be owing to ill conduct, for one single ship to put the whole line in disorder by only losing her fore-top-mast; whereas it might have been repaired in a few hours.—N. B. What became of her bowlings, or had she any to her sails?

7. As the enemy was not to be seen for five days after, he might have landed his forces, or at least peeped into Mahon; but as he did neither, we think he was afraid of meeting the enemy again off the mouth of the harbour.
— *But it seems it was not his fighting day.*

8. By this ill conduct he left the enemy masters of the seas.

9. We look upon his account that the enemy sailed as three to one; to be a mistake, owing to a panic; because, if it had been true, they had it in their power, in the attempt they made, to have gained the windward gage, by eating us out of the wind.

10. That it does not appear that Mr. Bung, intended any skirmish, if the French had not rudely begun firing upon his ships.

c

11. That

11. That as the said Bung had the windward gage, he might have run close on board the enemy, and with his crowd of sail becalmed them; the consequence would have been a victory, as their ships could not have edged away three feet in an hour.

12. As he had thirteen sail of the line to the enemy's twelve, and fifty-two guns more than they; he ought not to have acted as a fribble, and more especially as Mahon was at stake.

For these and many more reasons we expect he should be brought immediately to the gang-way, to receive his reward for misdemeanors so malignant.

To the Publisher of the Evening Advertiser, July 1.

S I R,

You find by every account, how seasonable the departure of Sir Edward Hawke and Admiral Saunders proved.

‘ The warmest advocates for B——g now join in being dissatisfied with his conduct; and his own relation of it is held by the people here, to be an empty, labour’d piece of obscurity and subterfuge.

‘ The arts of palliation, for, I am afraid, an irretrievable behaviour, are so glaringly attempted, and at the same time so feebly executed, as to give too strong suspicions of the want both of head and heart.

‘ When I first took up Mr. B——’s letter, I was much elated with the hopes of good news; for “ I have the pleasure,” was such a beginning, as I naturally expected would lead me on to triumph. But I should have excused every impropriety of phrase or incorrectness of expression, if the account had but conveyed ever so small a portion of glory or service.

‘ The important duty Byng went upon, and the pressing necessity of its performance, should have reminded him to have left no force or stratagem untried, to have achieved his purpose.

‘ Nor

‘ Nor garrison relieved ! nor the enemy’s fleet disconcerted ! the coast abandoned, from conjectures of possibilities, by a fleet superior to the enemy ! whose bare appearance must have greatly animated the besieged, whose absence must infallibly accelerate a surrender ! Such are the facts we once feared, but now feel, and such are thy exploits, O ! B——g.’

Bristol, June 28.

Whitehall Evening, July 1.

Extract of a Letter from Reading, June 28.

‘ Taking my usual rounds among my country customers, as I have done for years past, I have never till now observed among the people in general so great a unanimity as at this time : Their affection to the King and country is universal. On the letter from Barcelona great rejoicings were made at several places, on account of Admiral Byng’s having drubb’d the French ; and in a select company, which I had invited to my inn, we were drinking the healths of our good King, the brave General Blakeney, and Admiral Byng, plough, loom, and sail ; but in the midst of our joy the post arrived, and the Gazette was called for. The oldest gentleman in company was desired to read it : But, alas ! the alteration that appeared in every face is not to be described, “ French ships sail three feet to English ships one, eighteen mile to our six, surely it cannot be ! says one.” “ Go back to Gibraltar, says another ! ” “ How in the D——’s name, says a third, should Mr. B——g know the number of men killed in the French fleet.” “ Oh, that Vernon had been there ! says a fourth.” “ Aye, says the first man, we want an Admiral Blake, for to bang the French.” A very old gentleman said, ‘ My father remembered the Dutch war ; then we had brave sea officers, —— a Lawson, a Kempthorn, “ and many more, who are now no more to be found.” “ Pray, (says one of them) did Admiral B——g

“ send a lieutenant with an account of the slain and
 “ wounded in his fleet, and desire Mons. Galissonniere
 “ to send him an account of what destruction he had
 “ made in the French fleet?” Upon the whole, our
 spirits were so damped, that all the brandy and rum (nay
 gin) in the house would not restore them: So we broke
 up with heavy hearts and mournful countenances. A
 very grave man went off, first saying,

‘ Give peace in our time, O Lord, because there is no
 ‘ other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.’

I hope to be in town in about a week, in the mean
 time am, &c.

London Evening Post, July 1.

E P I G R A M.

BYNG to St. Philip’s dar’d not venture near,
 Nor succours send ——— because the French were
 there;

Yet, had he chose to act a Briton’s part,
 Byng should have sent to borrow Blakeney’s heart.

Another,

O Had *B.* like old *Blakeney*, been dipp’d in the *Shannon*,
 He’d not been so bashful to face the *French* cannon;
 Which put him into such a quandary,
 That he left them to battle it with old *Tipperary*.

A poetical commentary on Mr. B——g’s letter,

By PATRICK M’LAUGH.

WHAT! an old England flag, and afraid to be
 bang’d!

By Jesus! (says *Blakeney*) you deserve to be hang’d.

Why (quoth *B.* hailing *Blakeney*) that’s just what I fear,
 Since the ropes are at hand, and *Gallows-so-near*.

Since

Since the publication of Admiral Byng's letter to Mr. Cleveland, we have the mortification to find, that *English* news is, sometimes, not so true as *French*; as any one may see, by comparing the said letter with Galissonniere's account of the late engagement in the Mediterranean: The French commander's account was so concise, that every body could understand it; the English Admiral's letter (or *extract* of his letter) is so prolix, and in some places so obscure, that neither seamen nor landmen can make head or tail of it; except that it is *plain* the unlucky affair of the *top-mast* threw half the squadron into disorder; that the Rear-Admiral set the example which his superior officer ought to have set; and that after all, had Mr. Byng been ever so heartily bent on giving the French a sound drubbing, it was impossible for him to do it, since their ships could go at the rate of *three* feet to our *one*; so that at a moderate computation, if our ships could make six knots an hour, theirs could go eighteen. ——— Who then does not see the *Impracticability* of fighting them to any purpose? Or who can forbear wondering that our squadron could get away from such nimble Sailors?

Evening Advertiser, July 3.

A L E T T E R.

I.

MR. C—— I pray,
To their L——s you'll say,
We are glad, and rejoice above measure:
When you've read what is writ you,
You'll laugh till it split you;
And so give me joy of *my pleasure*.

II.

We'd a wind you must know,
As fair as could blow,

And

And therefore, in days just eleven;
We had fail'd from the shore.
Full ten leagues, or more,
And saw nought but the *Ocean* and *Heaven*.

III.

Then, seventeen ships,
Came, licking their lips,
And crying out, *Fee, Faw, and Fum* :
Bigger each than *St. Paul* ;
Guns, the devil and all,
And egad, looking wonderous glum.

IV.

But no matter for that,
Who says, pit a pat ?
We tack'd, and we stood to the weather :
We tack'd quite about,
Right and left, brave and stout,
And so we were sideways together.

V.

Souls five-score and two,
Maugre all they could do,
We took in a tartan alive ;
Six hundred did sail,
In the vessel so frail ;
But our *hundred* had eat up the *five*.

VI.

But of this, by the bye ;
For now we drew nigh
To each other — quite close — nay 'tis true :
Six times two, of the line
Large, grand, bright and fine ;
Five frigates ! — but look'd rather *blue*.

VII.

Fair honour, quoth I,
In thy arms let me die !

And

And my glory burn clear in the socket!
 Not an ounce more of powder,
 Or a gun a note louder!
 So the d—— I put in my pocket.

VIII.

Brave W—— led the van,
 I follow'd amain:
 Such *closing* and *raking*, and work,
 With *foresails* and *braces*,
 All flutt'ring in pieces,
 'Twould have melted the heart of a Turk.

IX.

But the Devil, in spite,
 To blast our delight,
 Got aboard the I——d, his daughter,
 Made her jump, fly, and jumble,
 Reel, elbow, and tumble,
 And drove us quite *out of the water*.

X.

And now, being tea-time,
 We thought it was the time
 To talk over what we had done:
 So we put on the kettle
 Our tempers to settle; ——
 And presently set the fair sun.

XI.

Our C——l next day,
 In seemly array,
 Met, sat, and debated the story:
 We found, that our fleet,
 At last, might be beat:
 And then, you know, *where is the glory*.

XII.

Moreover 'twas plain,
 Three ships in the van,

Had

Had their glasses and china all broke ;
And this gave the ballance,
 In spite of great talents,
Against us : ——— a damnable stroke !

XIII.

Without fear of reproaches,
 As sound as your roaches,
 Of glory we've our whole stock ;
 'Twere pity indeed,
 To lose it, or bleed,
 For a *toothless old man* and a *rock*.

Evening Advertiser, July 6, 1756.

The account of the late *Cannonading*, published by authority, is expressly said to be only an *Extract of a letter from, &c* ; and we are assured, that if the whole of the letter had appeared, the public indignation would have run much higher than even it does at present.

There were not above *two thousand* seamen in all *Gallisoniere's* fleet ; whence our superiority was far greater than what at first appears from our majority of 52 guns : the French were likewise very sickly.

We are well informed, that a certain great personage, within a few days past, *publickly* declared his opinion of a late memorable transaction in the following words ; “ It is not *possible* that B—— and the rest of them should be such C——ds ; *I am sold*.”

Gazetter, Tuesday, July 6, 1756.

To Mr. C——.

The better part of valour is discretion, in which better part I have saved my life. ——— *Shakespeare.*

Dear Sir, 'tis with pleasure the following I write,
 And hope you'll impute my mistakes to my fright.
 On the eighth day of May we set sail for Mahon,
 Where we fear'd we should get (as the wind blew) too
 soon ; I was

I was not in haste, for 'tis always my way,
 To be first at a feast, and the last at a fray.
 On the nineteenth at noon we discern'd the F—— fleet,
 And judg'd we must now either beat or be beat ;
 I was then to the windward, and such was my play,
 That by shifting, and shifting I spun out the day ;
 On the twentieth again the F—— fleet was in sight,
 And I found, that in spite of my fear I must fight ;
 On comparing our force, we had one ship to spare,
 And to take the advantage I thought was unfair,
 So I order'd the D—— to get to a distance,
 But not too far off, should we want her assistance.
 Mr. W—— who loves fighting, behav'd like a man,
 Tho' he sail'd in the rear, yet he fought in the van ;
 If I fought, you'll believe the engagement was hot,
 But I wisely kept out of the reach of their shot.
 Th' I—— by accident losing her mast,
 Was a handsome excuse for retreating at last.
 A council was call'd, and we all thought it best,
 As they steer'd for the east, we should steer for the west.
 This agreed ; lest their minds, when recover'd shou'd
 alter,

I am sailing as fast as I can to G——r :
 So have wrote this in haste, as I thought it expected
 That news of such moment should not be neglected.
 Do your best to enhance my deserts to the K——
 And in all things (but fighting) believe me,

Your's, B——.

Williamson's Dublin Universal Advertiser, July 6, 1750.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC.

We are informed that a certain B——t——sh Admiral,
 for his generous behaviour in the Mediterranean to the
 ships of his most Christian Majesty, will be shortly
 created a DUKE, PEER, and MARSHAL of France,
 the report of which gave at first great umbrage to the
 commanders of that country ; but they now comfort
 D them-

themselves, that the said Admiral will never be put over their heads, should he take refuge in their kingdom; their good conduct and bravery being more essential qualifications to an officer than a vote in parliament.

London Evening, July 8, 1756.

On a certain Most Admirable ADMIRAL.

If you believe what Frenchmen say,
B—G came, was beat, and run away,
Believe what B—G himself hath said;
He fought, he conquer'd, and he fled.
To fly, when beat, is no new thing;
Thousands have don't, as well as B—G;
But no man did, before B—G, say,
He conquer'd, and then run away.
B—G, there is, without a fable,
An Admiral most admirable!

Gazetteer, July 10, 1756.

Great-Britain's Genius, some few months ago
Rebuk'd her sons, and thus her challenge run:

“ BRITANNIA, awake, and your terrors display;
“ How long will you slumber and sleep?
“ The French are abroad, and ride Lords of the sea,
“ While you *dream* yourselves Kings of the deep.
“ How dare you such falsehoods in titles advance,
“ That you're l—ds of the seas, and the m—h of France?

BRITANNIA, *half rous'd*, declar'd she wou'd maul
The French and their cowardly fleet,

Sent Ad—l B—g to attack the proud Gaul,
Who for fear of being *gall'd* did retreat:
Now fullen she lays herself down on the shore
And cries, with a sigh, that “ Brave Bembo's no more;”
While her sons are so pleas'd with the conduct of B—g,
That since his defeat they've done nothing but sing.

So

So Greece, once conquer'd, did in arts excel;
 But Greeks grew fidlers, when their laurels fell.
 May not our foes, when they of England speak,
 Apply this proverb? "Merry as a Greek."

London Evening, July 10, 1756.

E P I G R A M.

On the Two BETA's (or B. and B.)

Written Extempore.

Old B. the valiant cock, ——— stout stood the fight;
 Young B. his gallant chick, ——— swift led the fight;
 The hardy sire for bravery's renown'd;
 The son, with equal praise, for ——— prudence crown'd;
 The old cock, a thousand deaths, by standing, brav'd;
 His chick, a thousand lives, by running, sav'd.
 Thus equal laurels equal heroes grace:
 One won the battle, ——— t' other ——— won the race.

Evening Advertiser, July 13, 1756.

Letters arrived yesterday from Byng's fleet, dated *at sea*, without mentioning where, whither going, or any particular that could give satisfaction to the public. This may be supposed to be the effect of orders; but with what view they could be given, or such caution made use of, we pretend not to conjecture. Some persons suspect, that so indeterminate a date was used, for fear of the letters giving intelligence to the enemy, and thereby exposing the fleet to farther *incivilities* from the French Admiral.

It is certain, from some circumstances in the above letters, that our Mediterranean heroes were making for the *security* (——in some sense or other,) of *Gibraltar*; and the tediousness of their return thither is supposed to have been owing to their keeping as close in as possible with the Spanish shore, as the neutrality of Spain would thereby protect them from being attacked; and as our peace

with the States of Barbary, secures the Admiral from the danger of their corsairs, other reasons are not easily to be assigned.

London Evening, July 13, 1756.

Cries *Blakeney* to *Byng*, as he kept at a distance,
You'll be hang'd, you poltroon, if you don't bring
assistance :

Why aye,---reply'd *Byng*, what you say may be true,
But then I may chance to be shot, if I do :
Sudden death I abhor ; while there's life, there is hope :
Let me 'scape but the Gun, I can buy off the rope.

Evening Advertiser, July 15, 1756.

Sed cadat ante diem, mediaque inhumatus arena.

Virg. *Æn.* iv.

BRITONS, what unatton'd offence

Haunts your unprosp'rous race ?

See him you sent with honours hence

Returning with disgrace.

Methinks upon the vessel's side

I see your prisoner stand,

Curfing both winds, and bark, and tide,

That bear him to the land.

" This heart, (he cries) these horrors shew

The weakness of my cause ;

Who fears to meet his country's foe,

Must tremble at her laws.

Then with what face shall I appear

Before her judgment seat !

Even now they shout around my bier,

That flames in every street.

At my approach yon paly shore

Would change its white to red ;

And that high cliff come whelming o'er

On this degen'rate head.

My

My King (I tremble at the name)

Tho' mercy guides his throne,

Must punish for his people's shame,

But scorns me for my own.

The eyes that wept when Macl——e died,

Smile at my sentence past :

Tho' by a matron jury try'd,

By their decree I'm cast.

Like Abdiel, (midst corruption found)

See mangled N——l stands ;

Look ! A——ws shews his deadly wound,

And blood for blood demands.

See Bl——y with a scornful frown

Points to the secret port,

There bids me set my succours down

And save the wasting fort.

Bl——y, to that important pass

Too well I knew to steer,

But neither, I nor they, alas !

Had hearts to venture near.

Hah ! do I awake ? or are my eyes

By their own fears betray'd ?

See yon pale angry spectre rise,

My father's awful shade.

“ Shame to my blood ! I shake, I swoon,

I die upon the sight :

Oh ! sink my bark, sink instant down,

And bury me in night.”

This said, he twice essay'd to leap,

Twice left the vessel's side ;

The third time in the frowning deep

He plung'd, he sunk, he dy'd.

London,

London Evening, July 15, 1756.

E P I G R A M.

When to the French Byng's flag did first appear,
From the mast-head they cry'd, ' Soho!—a hare.'

To sail under CONVOY.

The good ship RAMILLIES, the hon. John Wholebones, commander; a prime sailer, and square-stern'd, as the French, who lately saw her with such nimbleness fall all a back, can bear witness. She carries ninety guns, quite clean, quite dumb. She was formerly used as a man of war, before the hon. John Wholebones converted her into a fishing-vessel for Martinico men. He employ'd her in that fishery, this season, for six weeks, between Plymouth and Gibraltar; whence he sailed, with abated hopes and spirit, up the Mediterranean, suspecting it, as it prov'd the case, to be at that time a troublesome sea; where nothing was to be met with but what a discreet mariner would chuse to avoid: for which reason he determin'd to return to his brother fisherman at Gibraltar.

Any goods or parcels for England will be received on board the good and safe ship RAMILLIES, powder and ball excepted. Any passengers likewise, not averse to the captain's backward humour, and who besides abhor all dealings with the French, may be well accommodated.

Evening

Evening Advertiser, July 17, 1756.

For the IMPROVEMENT of his Majesty's Forces both by
Sea and Land,

Speedily will be published,

ENGLAND's REVENGE against Cowardice.

CONTAINING

The HISTORY of COWARDS in their country's pay,
who have *distinguished* themselves from the commence-
ment of the *late* war to the *present* time; either in
action or non-action, by *land* or by *sea*, or by COUN-
CILS OF WAR to *avoid* action; with the particulars
for which they have been *remarkable*, whether RUN-
NING AWAY, being too BASHFUL, LOSING a RUD-
DER, WANTING to REFIT, or LOSING the ENEMY
in a FOG, &c. &c. &c.

Faithfully collected from the proceedings of court-mar-
tials, and authentic vouchers, as well as from the ob-
servation of *eye-witnesses*; shewing the JUST judg-
ment that will infallibly overtake them at last, how-
ever *gently* they may seem to escape at first.

Cowards may fly from sword or gun,

But infamy they ne'er can shun.

N. B. Any person entitled to a place in this history,
but whose *modesty* makes him desire to have his
name properly transmitted to posterity, may be in-
dulged, on sending his name, together with a
month's pay (according to his *rank*) to the author.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are taken in at PRESTON-PANS, FAL-
KIRK, PORTMAHON, GIBRALTAR, and most
places of note in EUROPE and AMERICA, particularly
at the DALZEL'S-ARMS near PADDINGTON.

Written in PLAIN ENGLISH

By LITTLE-FEAR GUNPOWDER, *Esq;* F. R. S.

and of the Society of Antiquaries;

*Formerly a volunteer on board the Invincible, and now of
the Dreadnought,*

Evening

Evening Advertiser, July 17, 1756.

On the admirable B——g.

*Sed ubi labore atque justitia respublica crevit; avaritiæ
fidem, probitatem, ceterasque artes bonas subvertit.
Sallust. Bell. Catilin.*

When Jove had first resolv'd on Britain's fate,
He gave a fleet to make them truly great.
Pleas'd with the gift the soon began to find
Blessings unnumber'd flow from ev'ry wind;
With ev'ry wind and tide Britannia bore
Millions of treasures to her fruitful shore.

Her ships increas'd, her sailors trained to fight
The Spaniards saw, and sicken'd at the sight:
Instant he bids his captains form a fleet,
And Tagus groan'd beneath th' unwieldy weight*.

They sail'd with dire intent to Britain's race,
But Forbisher and Hawkins gave them chase;
Drake, in the rear, the scatter'd foe annoys,
And what his cannon spares, his fire † destroys.
O! for thy genius, Drake, to sweep the main,
And scourge the Frenchman, as you conquer'd Spain;
Then might OUR Blakeney all the siege have stood,
And sav'd the fort with half the soldiers blood;
Tho' he should fall, who envies not his death,
To serve his country with his latest breath?

Let B——g securely bear his fleet away,
And keep his ships to fight another day,
Warren would call such sea-fights but a jest,
B——g holds a council with his brother W——ft.

How can you fly, while Blakeney, Britain, calls?
How stain the price of England's wooden walls?

* *The Spanish Armada consisting of 150 great ships, on board which were embarked 19000 men and 2630 pieces of cannon.*

† *By fireships first used in England by Drake.*

Haste,

Haste, Hawke, and ~~try them~~, chain them to an oar;
 Lash them on deck, while all your cannons roar.
 Thus let them die the death of slaves, while You
 Relieve the town, and win the battle too.

Britons, be brave, ~~ye've~~ ships enough to boast;
 Tho' much deceiv'd, we cannot say ye've lost;
 Anson or Rowley, quit the peaceful shore,
 And be what Drake and Raleigh were before:
 True hearts to point the thunders in their womb,
 And leave to B ~~—~~g his tea, and ~~—~~ drawing-room;

London Evening, July 17, 1756.

The **CONTRAST.**

BLAKENEY.

BROTHER, soldiers, have a care;
 Like Englishmen behave:
 Of this we well persuaded are,
 That **GEORGE** rewards the brave.

BYNO.

Brother sailors, have a care;
 Nor over-hasty be:
 Of coming close, good lads, beware,
 For that discomfits me.

BLAKENEY.

Mark those ill-condition'd French,
 Their numbers mark how few:
 They cannot hope to make us flinch,
 Whose hearts are good and true.

BYNO.

Mark, O mark, that navy tall,
 How first-rate like they swim!
 Shot take that silly Admiral,
 If he thinks me match for him.

E

BLAKENEY.

BLAKENEY.

I wish not one man more, I vow!
 Victors, we praise engross;
 And, if we fall, we are enow
 To do our country loss.

BYNG.

Were those ships, that idly lay
 At Plymouth and Spithead,
 Around me on this dreadful day,
 Then would I nothing dread.

BLAKENEY.

Our safety in our courage lies;
 Ne'er trust a treacherous foe;
 'Tis that alone each want supplies,
 As yonder camp shall know.

BYNG.

Our safety in our canvas lies,
 Let others trust in guns;
 All shifts a good commander tries,
 And, if they fail, he runs.

BLAKENEY.

When to Britain we return,
 Shouts shall attend us on;
 Each town salute us in its turn,
 With, 'They preserv'd MAHON.'

BYNG.

When we anchor safe at home,
 Crowds shall our landing greet,
 All crying out, 'What must be done
 'For him who sav'd the fleet.'

Evening

Evening Advertiser, July 20, 1756.

*Admiral B——g's answer to his Friends, who had sent an
express to acquaint him of the public resentment.*

DEAR SIRs,

You tell me the nation is all in a flame,
All murmur, and load with reproaches my name,
They lash me in satire, and burn me in straw,
And threaten the harshest of lashes, the law.

These things don't appall me——To convince you the
Having nothing to do, I will answer in metre: [better,
If the nation is pleas'd to make songs upon B——g,
The winner, egad! with good reason may sing.

Observe then this truth (but 'tis all *Entre Nous*
For if public, there wou'd be---the devil to do!)
The people of *England*, of all people living,
Do murmur the most, yet are always forgiving.

Their passions resemble the tides, you must know,
The lower they ebb, then the higher they flow;
The further their rage and resentment are gone,
The more they'll be sure to exalt you anon——

Sage heroes like me, then, to get what we want,
Abuse them,---as jilts, treat a love-sick gallant——
Get bribes from abroad, and at home we get flags;
'Tis enough for the brave to get glory and—— rags.

You see then my views; and, t'explain my whole mind,
I'll cruize where nor *French* or the devil shall find;|
I mean till the storm is blown over——and then,
I'll return, and *rise higher*, and betray you *agen*.

The A---ns, and H---ks, and B---ns may fight,
But th' event shall evince that my policy's right;
Their merits forgotten, and offices lost,
I'm sure I shall die in some eminent post.

Yours, B——g.

Cape Lord-no-where,
June 10, 1756,

E 2

Ob

*Oh be it so! ye powers above!
 Nor his expected post deny!
 But then like MAMAN's let it prove,
 Not less than fifty cubits high.*

Gazetteer, July 21, 1756.

*A letter from Monsieur Le G---f---e to Mr. B---g, relating
 to the glorious action of Minorca, May 20, 1756.*

O B——g, de noble partner of my fate,
 Our mutual health, me here congratulate,
 From thund'ring cannon and de per'lous seas,
 In Gib's varm friendiy ramparts now at ease;
 De hero laugh at danger and de cries
 Of needy friends vo never vill be wise.
 Morbleu de bellowing mettle loud did roar,
 De distance only von poor league or more;
 But fate vas kind to our poor crew, indeed,
 Vor not von single little vinger bleed.
 You gave the signal vich vas only civil,
 But Vest rush on like madman or de devil:
 Me see and tremble as de squadron closes
 Egar, say I, some of 'em vipe der noses;
 Vid shatter'd Intrepid, you make a stickle,
 To save our van vrom being in a pickle;
 But my good Vriend, you vind dat in dis case,
 Me shew my gratitude in second place,
 And for your honour's sake vid cheer and hollow,
 Run tree time yaster den slow you could follow.
 To var and politick you be no stranger,
 Your squadron guard de place dat's in no danger,
 Vilst in the Island Blakney. dat old cuff
 Vrom our Monsieurs have many a rebuff.
 Go on, great Sir, in de pursuit of glory
 Dat your dread name may s—— in future story,
 In de mean time, der Lordships tell in vull,
 De vond'rous hist'ry of de Cock and Bull.

Whitehall

Whitehall Evening, July 22.

To the P R I N T E R, &c.

S I R,

Since the appearance of Vice-Admiral Byng's letter to Mr. Secretary Cleveland, dated the 25th of May last, nothing has been so much talk'd of in Conversation as that most unfortunate Skirmish near Minorca; and mention being therein made of his calling a council of war before he went again to look for the enemy, various disputes have arisen about the method of holding a council of war at sea; some have asked, whether it has been the practice to call land officers on those occasions; others have doubted whether any such were summon'd to attend the said council.

To satisfy my own curiosity in the best manner I could, I have enquir'd of a friend of mine, who was at sea in Queen Anne's reign, who tells me the rules are as follow :

‘ When there is a sufficient number of flag officers together, all councils of war shall be held by them only: The first Captain to the Admiral of the fleet shall, on such occasions, be esteemed as a Rear Admiral, and take place at all councils of war next to the junior Admiral.

‘ But if the number of flag officers be less than three, the Commander in Chief shall call to councils of war such of the senior Captains as he shall in his own discretion think necessary, of whom his own Captain is to be one.

From the letter it does not appear that there were in the council any officers besides General Stuart, Lord Effingham, Lord Robert Bertie, and Col. Cornwallis: Yet some have been apt to think every Post-Captain in the fleet was present, because the letter says, “ At which council not the least contention or doubts arose;” taking it for granted the sea commanders were present.

But

But my sea friend think otherwise, and can answer for the following gentlemen, as men of courage, honour, and probity, hearty lovers of their country, but does not hereby in the least insinuate that others are not ; Durel, Yonge, Catford, Cornwall, Edgumbe, and Everit. He takes it upon him to say, that when any of the above gentlemen send an account of this obscure affair, we may depend on having the whole truth. He has another observation too long for this letter.

I am, &c.

Tower-Hill, July 11, 1756.

Evening Advertiser, July 22.

To the Publisher of the Evening Advertiser.

SIR,

By printing the inclosed in the Evening Advertiser, you will much oblige,

Yours, &c.

To coward flight the chief had now
His treach'rous sails display'd ;
When sudden 'bove the parted waves
Rose Torrington's illustrious shade :

And thus he spake : his eyes the while
Rolling their angry orbs around
Flam'd fiery red ; and on his brow
Stern indignation frown'd.

“Curst be the day (Oh would to heav'n

“That day had never shin'd !

“Then when thy mother gave the birth,

“The shame of all thy kind :

“The distant world with wonder struck,

“Th' inglorious tale shall hear,

“A B——g betray'd his country's cause,

“A Briton knew a fear :

“Oh

" Oh! that some pitying storm had rose
 " (Or e'er thou here hadst come)
 " And thou beneath the waves hadst found
 " A less ignoble doom,
 " Then wouldst thou, dastard, not have stain'd
 " The laurels, I had won;
 " These conscious waves then had not seen
 " The Sire dishonour'd by the Son:
 " Lavish of life 'twas here I shook
 " The trident of the Main,
 " For England here I fought, and crush'd
 " The tow'ring pride of Spain,
 " Thence once again my trust discharg'd
 " I trod on English ground,
 " And triumph'd 'mid applauding crowds
 " With naval honours crown'd:
 " Thou, too, (but with a different fate)
 " Must seek thy native land:
 " Reproachful scorn and dire revenge
 " Shall hail thee to the Strand:
 " Go, miscreant, go, unworthy prov'd
 " Of Britain, and thy Sire;
 " Britain, to merit ever just,
 " But dreadful in it's ire;
 " Go, where e'en now stern Justice thirsts
 " To drink thy votive blood."
 Indignant spoke the glorious shade,
 And, murm'ring, sank beneath the flood.

Evening Advertiser, July 22.

It is reported, that our run-away Admiral, upon the strength of Broderick's reinforcement, had been seen venturing within a day and a half's sail of Minorca, upon the seeming errand of seeking for Galissonniere.

Pre-

Probably he had intelligence or good hopes of the French fleet's being returned to Toulon.

Evening Advertiser, July 27.

To the Publisher of the Evening Advertiser.

S I R,

To perpetuate the glorious deserts of the brave old BLAKENEY, whose well earn'd honour shall immortalize his noble, tho' untitled, name, I would propose, That this brave and truly noble veteran (to contrast the infamous reception assigned to the honourable, though ignoble B——g) shall make his return to his King and Country by a public entry through the streets of London.

———What a noble sight would it afford, and how just the reward! to behold this venerable hero heading the remains of his gallant and undaunted garrison over Westminster bridge, with drums beating, colours flying, and all the honours their valour and conduct have extorted even from the enemy. ——— The service they have performed, though defeated, deserves the honours of a triumph!

——— When before was so glorious a struggle in our country's cause! ——— The enemy themselves have acknowledged it by the most honourable and unparalleled capitulation they have generously granted: and shall not these heroes reap this tribute to their merit?

——— Surely they will, were it only to teach future towards, that while they are dragg'd as they deserve to condign punishment, the brave, tho' defeated, shall be honoured with the victors due.

A *Triumph* therefore for *Blakeney*, a Gallows reward

B——g,

A Rope for all *Traitors*, and GOD save GEORGE our KING.

Yours, &c.

F.

HUZZA!

Not-

Notwithstanding our honest correspondent insinuates both *cowardice* and *treachery* against a *late* sea commander, most persons are now become more suspicious of the *latter* than the *former*. It is particularly remarked, That the disposition of his fleet, his keeping the weather gage, &c. in spite of all the enemy could do, prove him an excellent seaman; and, consequently, inforce the blame of one or both of the above imputations. Indeed, a soul endued with a proper sensibility of honour, can scarcely be imagined capable of being affected by lucrative considerations, so far as to sacrifice the true glory of performing important services to his country to the mean motive of avarice: a corrupted traytor therefore must necessarily be a coward; and our correspondent's variation of the charge is consistent and natural.

It is certain, That our fleet had every advantage that could have been wished for excepting merit in its commander. The common sailors an ardour for engagement which was never exceeded, nor could have been withstood; the advantages of the wind, the sun, the number of guns, the goodness of ships, and day-light enough, all conspired to insure us a most glorious victory: But, alas! Byng had the command. What the whole fleet could have done, is plain from the performance of less than the half of it. The behaviour of *six ships only*, really had the better against the whole French fleet, consisting of double their number which were actually engaged.

As many persons have been greatly puzzled how to account for so many officers of established reputations signing the minutes of Byng's council of war for returning to Gibraltar, and deserting the object of the expedition, we can now assure them, that the motive which influenced them was the real danger to the public service of venturing another engagement under such a man.

NAVAL ARITHMETICK. *An Epigram.*

With thirteen ships to twelve, cries B——g;
 It were a shame to meet 'em :
 And then with twelve to twelve, a thing
 Impossible to beat 'em.

When *more's* too many, *less* too few,
 And even still not right :
 Arithmetick must plainly shew
 'Twere wrong in B——g to fight.

Evening Advertiser, July 29.

EPIGRAM: *By a Young Lady.*

Blakeney we praise, and *Byng* we blame,
 Yet each has fears we need n't doubt it ;
Byng fears to die in search of fame,
Blakeney's sole fear is life without it.

Our last ought to have specified, that Capt. Young had the French Admiral and his second upon him *besides* the ship which regularly fell to his share in the enemy's line. After the engagement Admiral West sent to thank Capt. Young for his gallant behaviour, but it does not appear that the HONOURABLE Mr. Byng favoured him with any marks of his approbation. The Intrepid being a French ship taken in the last war, is supposed to have been the occasion of these extraordinary efforts for the recovery of her, or at least the destroying her as a trophy of honour to the English fleet. One of which ends they must have accomplished, had she been commanded by a less gallant officer than Mr. Young, or had the other ship in the squadron waited for the Admiral's orders to relieve her.

Near fifty persons from on board the fleet, who were in the late action in the Mediterranean, are come home in the Antelope ; it is supposed, in order to procure justice to their country at a court martial,

Capt.

Capt. Ward of the Culloden, being stationed too near the Admiral to have any thing to do in the late engagement, and seeing no sign of orders for the assistance of West's division, he bore towards its relief of his own accord; on which a gun was fired by the Admiral to keep him in his post; but this being disregarded, thro' the pressing exigency of the service, two shot were immediately sent after him for the same purpose; and this it was which prevented his having any share in the action, and has subjected his character to reflections that Byng will never be able to make him amends for.

So great was the ardour of the common tars for drubbing the French, and so high their resentment against their late Mediterranean commander, that persons arrived by the Antelope affirm it to be their opinion, that if the French had appeared to face them again, the common men would have prepared for the engagement by hanging up the Admiral on board his own ship.

We hear a certain famous Admiral has had the pleasure to write another famous letter to a great Board, complaining of *ill usage*, after the GREAT SERVICE he has done his country.

We hear that when Sir Edward Hawke arrived at Gibraltar to take the command of the British fleet on him, the *worthy* gentleman whom he superseded was greatly surprized; his own conduct having received the greatest *self-approbation*.

Evening Advertiser, August 3.

The PACIFIC ENGAGEMENT ;

O R,

A Poetical Dialogue between two COURTEOUS ADMIRALS.

*He that fights and run away,
May fight again another day.*

HUDIBRAS.

B.

At last we are met — but I hope with no other
Intent or design, but to spare one another.
Tho' we seem by our flags to be desperate foes,
Let us part, if you please, without banging or blows !

G.

But since fighting and wars, are the arts which we trade in,
We must have a little, and short cannonading ;
Our guns must be fir'd at a distance, but still
With no wicked intention to wound or to kill.

B.

As nigh to each other, good friends, as we ride,
A tar now and then must drop down on each side ;
Our cannons must bounce, while our mock fight does last,
While I tear your rigging, you shatter my mast.

G.

Tho' the roar of my guns may your Britons alarm,
Yet assure 'em from me, they shall do 'em no harm ;
They may hear my shot whiff thro' the air without dread ;
Directed by me, to fly over their head.

B.

To finish the farce, as we both have agreed,
Not five in your ship by my bullets shall bleed :
We'll fight a whole day amid volumes of smoke,
Nor an arm nor a leg of ten sailors be broke.

G.

G.

Like victors we each will our colours display
And each boast a triumph——for running away!
While your King, and my King, shall vote a thanksgiving,
That their ships are all safe, and their troops are all living.

B.

Suppose our two monarchs should murmur and fret;
We can swear and protest that our powder was wet;
Or if that does not serve, we can drop a few hints,
That our pistols and muskets all wanted their flints:

G.

That our bullets by dozens dropt down in the main,
Which else would their hundreds and thousands have slain;
In the heat of the fight, and the smoke and the smother,
Forbid us to view, and to grapple each other.

B.

Ah, how had it vext us, when fighting, to see
A ball tear my ruffles, or singe your toupee;
A death to all spruce and gay finical blades,
A wound to receive in their martial cockades,

G.

That we battled in earnest to make folks believe,
Let us each shew a gash in our hat and our sleeve;
And to point out the dreadful effects of the war,
My thumb, and your finger, shall each have a scar.

B.

When home we return, we shall ne'er want pretences,
To blind and to rob all our foes of their senses;
We safely we laugh at all judges and juries,
Since our Captains will vouch, that we fought it like furies.

G.

Let Fame, if she pleases, our conduct bespatter,
My Louis, your G——, shall know nought of the matter;
'Twould sully our glory, to murmur and fret,
At the tales that are told, in each lying Gazette.

B.

B.

What stories soever romances may frame,
The deeds of their heroes and knights to proclaim
We know that brave warriors have worsted a foe,
Without drawing a sword, or once striking a blow ;

G.

Let us then both agree it, to slacken our fire ;
If we lose our commission, our bones are entire ;
And none can deny what a warrior once spoke,
That 'twas better his truncheon, than arm, should be broke.

B.

Quite prudent the valour of chiefs, who are willing
To earn a renown without bloodshed or killing ;
What's honour, but only a jest and a whim,
Which is dearly acquir'd with the loss of a limb !

G.

It oft leaves us cripples——and ah, in the room
Of a leg or an arm, we are pay'd with a plume ;
For a puff of applause, and a wreath on our head
We hobble each night on our crutches to bed.

B.

How dreadful the scene, when the battle was o'er,
To have view'd our two decks all cover'd with gore ;
But the statute pacific, we chose to fulfil,
Which forbid, all good christians to murder and kill.

G.

To our cabins for safety then let us retreat ;
Nor victors, nor vanquished, nor beating, nor beat ;
While Richelieu with Blakeney for victory strains,
Each claiming a laurel, for dashing out brains,

B.

In triumph when back we return, to display
The harmless encounter and farce of the day ;
Tho' envy may blast our renown, yet we hope
Each to merit a garland, instead of a rope.

G.

Yet since our two masters perhaps may ordain
 That we n'er are to combat again on the main,
 As our toils are all o'er, and our scuffle now ends,
 Let us bus e'er we part---and embrace, as good friends,
 The parley thus ending, each warrior, instead
 Of renewing the battle, now hastens to bed;
 While each does the other most humbly request,
 That no cannons, that night, should their slumbers molest.
 To their couches of down, while both chiefs are retir'd,
 No gun was discharg'd, and no pistol was fir'd:
 In war always deem'd a most fatal mistake,
 When they wanted to dose, to keep Gen'als awake,

Evening Advertiser, Aug. 5, 1756.

*Extract of a letter from an officer in the Mediterranean,
 dated Gibraltar, June 23, 1756.*

S I R,

' As you desired to hear from me while I was abroad,
 I take this opportunity of giving you some account of our
 proceedings since we left England—We arrived at Gib-
 raltar the 2d of May, where we heard the disagreeable
 news of the Island of Minorca's being in the hands of the
 French; upon which we made all the dispatch we could
 and watered our ships, and on the 8th we sailed, and
 made the best of our way for the said island; and on the
 19th at day light we saw it, and about noon we were
 near enough to see English colours flying on St. Philip's
 fort, and the French and they firing at each other very
 smartly; and as we came nearer the harbour's mouth at
 two in the afternoon, we discovered the French fleet,
 consisting of twelve sail of the line and four frigates; but
 it falling calm, we could not come near enough for ac-
 tion that night; but the next morning about eleven o'clock
 we saw them again, and consequently made all the ne-
 cessary preparations to engage, our officers and men
 being

being in the greatest spirits and fit for action. At two in the afternoon the signal was made to engage; upon which we bore down with the ships of our division, and began to fire very smartly on their van, and in about half an hour we drove the ship that we engaged out of the line, which was a 70 gun ship; then we dropt a-stern and engaged the next, but she held us tug for almost an hour and a half, and then she fell to leeward out of the line also; this was of the same force as the other, and had their Rear Admiral on board; and by this time their whole van had fell to leeward out of gun shot; and A—B— keeping his wind, and being so far astern, made it impracticable for us to make sail to leeward after them, because it would then have been in the power of their Vice Admiral to have made sail a-head with his division, and hem'd us in between the two fires of their rear and van. Now, I suppose, you'll want this explained, and wonder what A—B— was about all this time with his division; which I shall inform you of in the best manner I can. You must know that my station was to command on the lower gun deck, so that I am obliged to take this account from the two midshipmen who were quartered, one on the poop, and the other on the fore-castle, to observe signals, and take minutes of the whole action in writing, and they both agree in the following report; that A—B— did not engage their rear till almost four o'clock, and then at so great a distance, tho' to windward, that when their Vice Admiral saw we had disabled their van, and drove them to leeward, he left A—B— and made sail a-head with the ships of his division, and gave us his fire, but it was returned with so constant a fire, that made them soon follow the example of their van. All this time A—B— was under his top-sails and fore-sail, and part of the time his main-top-sail a-back.—How he will answer for himself and his division, I know not; but this I may venture to say, that if every body had done their duty as well as Admiral West and his division, I think we must have made a glorious day

day of the 20th of May, tho' they were certainly of a superior force, notwithstanding we were equal in numbers; and had they not behaved like poltroons, they might have taken the advantage of A—— B——'s being so far a-stern, and tore us all to pieces; for I should have told you, that the second broadside, the Intrepid (one of our 64 gun ships) was so disabled that she fell out of the line, so that in fact we had only five ships that bore the heat of the action. At half an hour past six A—— B—— made a signal to lay by, which we did all that night, and the next morning we saw nothing of them, but continued lying by all that day and the next night, repairing our masts, rigging, &c. which had received great damage by the enemy's shot: The next day A—— B—— made the signal for a council of war; the result of which was, to make the best of our way for this place, having near 800 men killed, wounded and sick in the fleet, the French expecting to be joined by four more 74 gun ships from Toulon. We arrived here the 19th inst. where we found five sail from England, but am afraid they are come too late to be of any service.'

The following is an exact list of the two fleets, in the order of the line of battle they were drawn up in against one another. By this it appears, that the French ships carried 62 more guns, and ours 36 fewer, than were mentioned in our Gazette, for which difference let others account how they can.

The English line of battle.
The Van Division Ad. West.

French Line.

	Guns.		Guns.
Defiance,	60	La Couronne,	74
Portland,	50	Le Sage,	64
Lancaster,	66	Le Content,	64
Buckingham,	68	L'Hipopotame,	60
Captain,	64	Redoubtable,	74
Intrepid,	64	Le Guerrier,	74
		G	The

The Rear Division, Ad. Byng.

	Guns.		Guns.
Revenge,	64	Foudroyant,	80
Princess Louisa,	60	Le Temeraire,	74
Trident,	64	Le Leon,	64
Ramilies,	90	Le Triton,	64
Culloden,	74	Le Fierce,	60
Kingston,	60	L'Orphie,	64
Deptford,	50	La Fleur,	50
Chesterfield,	40	La Nymph,	40
Phoenix,	24	Le Topaz,	36
Dolphin,	24	Le Rose,	36
Experiment,	20	Le Gracieuse,	30

It is said, that as soon as the two captains in Byng's division, who saved the Intrepid, came on board the Admiral, he observed to them, that they had disobeyed orders : upon which one of them immediately insisted on having a court martial upon the occasion. This Byng would gladly have put off, by observing that he did not mention the thing by way of reprimand ; but, being persons properly jealous of their honour, they persisted in their demand. A court-martial was called, and no accuser appearing (*Byng* not chusing to be one) they were very soon and very honourably acquitted.

Gazetter, August 6, 1756.

A letter from the committee of sailors to Admiral B—— at Spithead.

Lyon and Anchor in Wapping, July, 1756.

“ Please your Honour,

“ The report of your arrival gives much cheer ; but to hear that you are jam'd in the bilboes, seems as if a storm was coming ; if your honour had but grappled with *Galissonniere*, we think you might weather this hurricane.

“ Don't

“ Don't be run aground by landmen, sooner stave your cargoe, lighten your vessel (Heart) pump out the bulge, weigh anchor, stand to sea, and let fly your ensign (orders) that we may descry them; and if so be, that we find you have obeyed them, why we will stand by you as long as a plank is left to swim on.—Zoons, let those founder who have rotten bottoms.

“ If the fair weather sparks of Whitehall have anchored in foul ground, haul the wind and sheer off with St. George's colours, and leave them to be brought to the jeers that deserve it.

“ Take out the tompkin of your mouth, and fire away as loud as thunder, that by the report all folks may hear that you have done your duty, executed your orders bravely, and behaved gallantly.

“ Stand the deck till the clouds break, and let your honour and courage stick together like pitch, and so mayhap these sweet-scented jessamy folks may run their leaky vessels aground and founder on dry land.

“ Tack about and leave them to be exposed to the climate, that they may be condemned as unfit for future service.

“ If you find the storm so great as to disable you from carrying sail any longer, and obliged to quit the helm, why fasten down your hatches, say a short prayer, and die like a man.

“ I am, for the committee,

“ Your slave,

“ T. BOATSWAIN.”

ADDENDA.

A D D E N D A.

Monitor, June 16, 1756.

O yes! O yes! O yes.

Whereas two ADMIRABLES with a strong squadron of men of war, belonging to a certain European potentate, have lately disappeared, and to the surprize of all the *good* people of this nation, have not been yet heard of;

Whoever can give any *satisfactory* intelligence concerning them, and will apply to the sign of the ANCHOR and HOPE near *Charing-Cross*, shall be rewarded with the brains of a SEA LION, a jowl of NEWCASTLE salmon, and a FOX's brush.

*Monitor, July 31, 1756.**Anchor and Hope near Charing-Cross, July 26.*

Yesterday an ANTELOPE arrived here, and demanded the rewards some time since offered to any who could give any *satisfactory* intelligence concerning the two ADMIRABLES; but he found the SEA LION's *brains* so tainted, the *jowl* of NEWCASTLE SALMON so corrupted, and the FOX's *brush* so offensively pilled upon, that he refused to carry them away, unless the LANDLORD would suffer them to be HUNG UP to sweeten in the open air.

F I N I S.